

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice. By the present Preliminary Amendment original Claims 1-11 have been canceled and new Claims 12-21 are submitted for examination. New Claims 12-21 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter. The Abstract has also been amended by the present response to be in more proper format under United States practice.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423



22850

(703) 413-3000
Fax No.: (703)413-2220
GJM/SNS:sjh
I:\atty\SNS\209892US-pr.wpd

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IN THE CLAIMS

--Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claims 12-21 (New).--

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

--(New)--.